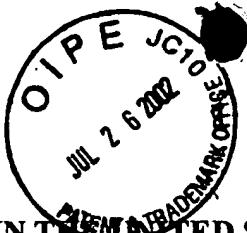


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Walbeck, et al. ) Group Art Unit 2153  
Appl. No. : 09/211,950 )  
Filed : December 15, 1998 )  
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS )  
FOR POWER LINE )  
EXCHANGE PROTOCOL )  
Examiner : Hieu C. Le )  
)

) I hereby certify that this correspondence and all  
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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.  
20231, on

July 24, 2002  
(Date)

*Lee W. Henderson*  
Lee W. Henderson Ph.D., Reg. No. 41,830

RESPONSE TO THE MARCH 26, 2002, RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement in the Office Action mailed March 26, 2002, Applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 1-12), drawn to a method for arbitrating use of a network medium to avoid collisions caused by multiple nodes attempting to transmit data on the network medium at the same time. This election is made without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,  
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: July 24, 2002

By: Lee W. Henderson

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